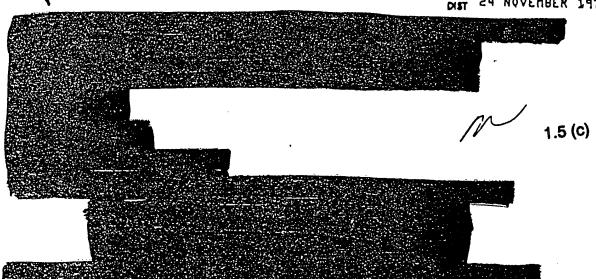


THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

SECRET

MST 24 NOVEMBER 1976



GO VERNMENT IS PLANNING TO RELEASE LUIS CORVALAN,

IMPRISONED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHILE

(PCCH). IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.

SAID THAT

CORVALAN'S HEALTH IS FAILING.

ALTHOUGH THE

GO VERNMENT, FOR OBVIOUS POLITICAL REASONS, HOULD LIKE TO

3557-131-3

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE JUN 1 1 1999

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EXCHANGE CORVALAN HITH THE SOVIETS FOR VLADIMIR BUKOVSK-Y, THEY HILL RELEASE HIM UNILATERALLY IF THEY HAVE TO DO SO.

2. COMMENT: THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION IS PROBABLY BASED ON ITS DESIRE TO AVBID THE ADVERSE PUBLICITY THAT HOULD RESULT IF ANYTHING HERE TO HAPPEN TO CORVALAN HHILE HE IS STILL UNDER DETENTION.)

3, CO MM EN TI

THAT IF THE SOVIETS AND THE CUBANS DO NOT AGREE TO EXCHANGE CORVALAN FOR BUKBVSKY AND PCCH LEADER JORGE M O N T E S FOR THE CUBAN HUBERT M A T O S. THE GOVERNMENT HILL PROBABLY FREE CORVALAN AND MONTES UNILATERALLY.)

4. (EMBASSY COMMENT: EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE CONSIDERED IT LIKELY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HOULD RELEASE CORVALAN IF IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT THE SOVIETS HOULD NOT MAKE AN EXCHANGE FOR HIM. SUCH A UNILATERAL RELEASE HOULD NOT ONLY KEEP UP THE FAVORABLE MOMENTUM BEGUN WITH THE RECENT RELEASE OF STATE OF SIEGE PRISONERS BUT HOULD PROBABLY RESULT IN MORE CREDIT FOR CHILE THAN AN EXCHANGE HOULD.)

SECRET

DENY IN TOTO

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